



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coronavirus Press Release

Ellicott City, MD – The Howard County Council joins the State and County in its efforts to contain and mitigate the public health threat posed by Covid-19 and is taking steps to minimize public congregation and exposure, particularly for our most vulnerable population. Accordingly, the Council is making the following changes to its upcoming public meeting schedule:

- March 16, 2020 7:00 p.m. – The Legislative Public Hearing is POSTPONED. Notice of the rescheduled date will be provided at a later time.
- March 16, 2020 1:00 p.m. – The Monthly Meeting will be accessible to the public by streaming and broadcasting at <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Online-Tools/Watch-Us> and on Channel 99 (Comcast) and Channel 44(Verizon).
- March 16, 2020 4:00 p.m. -- The Board of License Commissioners meeting will be accessible to the public by broadcast and streaming at <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Online-Tools/Watch-Us> and on Channel 99 (Comcast) and Channel 44(Verizon).

As the Council works to maintain necessary government functions, the Council strongly requests that the general public refrain from attending its meetings in person and instead exercise one of the above noted viewing options.

These actions are temporary and designed to assure that government actions are transparent and accessible without compromising the County Government and Howard County Public Schools' access to funds, spending authority and necessary authorizations for continuing County work and needs.

Although the March 16th Public Hearing on current legislation is postponed, the County Council encourages the public to continue to submit testimony on pending legislation by email or letter. Council Chairperson Deb Jung noted that “The Council loves hearing from Howard County residents and businesses, however, at this time we must all work together to ensure that we follow the public health guidance from the State, our County Executive and public health officials during this declared pandemic.”

For information from Howard County Government about Coronavirus-19, please visit the Department of Health website at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health/MM-Alerts-and-Recalls>.

For information from the State of Maryland see <https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Novel-coronavirus.aspx>. Finally, please note that the County has set up a special phone line 410-313-6284 (the WARM line) staffed by an infectious disease nurse if you have virus related questions.

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